

Appl. No. 10/757,813  
Docket No. 7294C  
Amdt. dated March 31, 2008  
Reply to Office Action mailed on January 9, 2008  
Customer No. 27752

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent article for wearing on or about a lower torso of a wearer for receiving bodily exudates, the disposable absorbent article comprising:
  - a topsheet,
  - a backsheet ~~joined with the topsheet;~~
  - an absorbent core disposed between at least a portion of the topsheet and the backsheet;
  - an acceptance element ~~that is a separate element joined with a body surface of the absorbent core,~~ wherein the acceptance element comprises one or more apertures each having an effective aperture size of between about 0.2 square mm to about 25 square mm; and
  - a fecal storage element disposed between at least a portion of the acceptance element and the absorbent core, wherein ~~the fecal storage element is separate from the acceptance element and the absorbent core,~~ the fecal storage element ~~having~~ has a compressive resistance of at least about 70%;  
wherein the topsheet, the backsheet, the absorbent core, the acceptance element, and the fecal storage element are all separate elements from each other.
2. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 1, wherein the acceptance element has an effective open area of at least 30%.

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3. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 1, wherein the topsheet is selected from the group consisting of: a porous foam, a reticulated foam, an apertured plastic film, a woven web of natural fibers, a nonwoven web of natural fibers, a woven web of synthetic fibers, a nonwoven web of synthetic fibers, a woven web comprising natural and synthetic fibers, and a nonwoven web comprising natural and synthetic fibers.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 1, wherein the storage element includes a macro-particulate structure comprising a multiplicity of particles.
6. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 5, wherein the particles are absorbent.
7. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 5, wherein the particles are non-absorbent.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent article for wearing on or about a lower torso of a wearer for receiving bodily exudates, the disposable absorbent article comprising:  
a liquid pervious topsheet;

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a liquid impervious backsheet ~~joined to the topsheet;~~

an absorbent core disposed between at least a portion of the liquid pervious topsheet and the liquid impervious backsheet,

an acceptance element ~~that is a separate element joined with a body surface of the absorbent core,~~ wherein the acceptance element has an effective open area of at least 30%; and

a fecal storage element disposed between at least a portion of the acceptance element and the absorbent core, wherein ~~the fecal storage element is separate from the acceptance element and the absorbent core,~~ the fecal storage element ~~having~~ has a compressive resistance of at least about 70%;

wherein the topsheet, the backsheet, the absorbent core, the acceptance element, and the fecal storage element are all separate elements from each other.

11. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 10, wherein the liquid pervious topsheet is selected from the group consisting of: a porous foam, a reticulated foam, an apertured plastic film, a woven web of natural fibers, a nonwoven web of natural fibers, a woven web of synthetic fibers, a nonwoven web of synthetic fibers, a woven web comprising natural and synthetic fibers, and a nonwoven web comprising natural and synthetic fibers.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)

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15. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of claim 10, wherein the storage element includes a macro-particulate structure comprising a multiplicity of particles.
16. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 15, wherein the particles are absorbent.
17. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 15, wherein the particles are non-absorbent.